

Message Text

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FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: PRESIDENCY OF COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

REF: MEXICO 6343

1. AS PROMISED IN PARA 2 OF REFTTEL, FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE RECEIVED FROM AMBASSADOR CASTRO Y CASTRO, IN WHICH HE PRESENTS THE GOM ARGUMENT FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA ASSUMING THE CND PRESIDENCY IN 1976. WE, AS YET, HAVE NO INDICATION WHETHER THE GOM SENT A SIMILAR NOTE TO THE RUSSIANS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: AIDE MEMOIRE

I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE CONVERSATION WHICH I HAD WITH YOU TODAY, WITH REFERENCE TO THE CANDIDACY OF MEXICO TO OCCUPY THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NARCOTICS COMMISSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNO DURING THE NEXT PERIOD OF SESSIONS, WHICH SHALL TAKE PLACE IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1976.

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AS WAS STATED, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO

OCCUPIED, IN STRICT ORDER, THE POSITION OF RAPPOREUR IN 1973 AND THAT OF SECOND VICE PRESIDENT IN 1974; IN 1975 IT SHOULD HAVE OCCUPIED THE POSITION OF FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND IN 1976 IT SHOULD OCCUPY THE PRESIDENCY. CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH WERE COMPLETELY ACCIDENTAL AND OF FORCE MAJEURE, WHICH SHALL BE EXPLAINED BELOW, ALTERED THE NORMAL SITUATION.

FOR THE 26TH PERIOD OF SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION, IT WAS THE TURN OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HUNGARY TO ASCEND FROM THE POSITION OF FIRST VICE PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT; UNFORTUNATELY DR BELA BOLCS SUFFERED A HEART ATTACK TOWARD THE END OF 1974, WHICH FACT PREVENTED HIS CONTINUING HIS ACTIVITIES, AMONG THEM THAT OF BEING PRESENT DURING SAID PERIOD OF SESSIONS. DR STERN S. MARTENS, DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF NARCOTICS, IN DECEMBER 1974, INVITED AMBASSADOR FERNANDO CASTRO Y CASTRO, REPRESENTATIVE OF MEXICO BEFORE THE NARCOTICS COMMISSION, TO BE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION IN SUBSTITUTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HUNGARY, DR BELA BOLCS.

AMBASSADOR CASTRO, FOR INTERNATIONAL COURTESY AND WITH THE BEST GOOD WILL TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION, ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE TO PRESIDE OVER THE 26TH PERIOD OF SESSIONS. UNFORTUNATELY, AFTER AN ACCIDENT, IN JANUARY 1975, AMBASSADOR CASTRO HAD TO UNDERGO A SEVERE SURGICAL OPERATION WHICH, DUE TO SOME COMPLICATIONS, KEPT HIM HOSPITALIZED DURING SEVERAL WEEKS, WHICH FACT PREVENTED HIS ATTENDING THE AFOREMENTIONED PERIOD OF SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION, AND HENCE PREVENTED HIM BEING ELECTED.

DUE TO THIS SITUATION, THE DELEGATE OF MEXICO AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE THE COMMISSION EXPRESSED TO DR MARTENS THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF FORCE MAJEURE WHICH PREVENTED AMBASSADOR CASTRO FROM BEING PRESENT, POINTING OUT THE DESIRABILITY OF HAVING MEXICO OCCUPY THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENCY AND OF RESERVING MEXICO'S TURN FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN 1976.

THE SUNDAY PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE 26TH PERIOD OF SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION, A GROUP OF DELEGATES AND EXPERTS, REPRESENTATIVES OF FRANCE, THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPUBLICS, INDIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TURKEY, CANADA AND YUGOSLAVIA, MET IN THE PRIVATE HOME OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION WHERE A SMALL COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT MR SINGH, DELEGATE OF INDIA, SHOULD TAKE OVER THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT FROM THAT OF RAPPOREUR, WITHOUT TAKING THE ORDER OF POSITIONS INTO ACCOUNT; AND THAT DR E. BABAIAN OF THE USSR WOULD BE ELECTED FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, PROFESSOR BROR REXED OF SWEDEN, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, AND DR SMITH, OF CANADA, RAPPOREUR.

THE DELEGATE OF MEXICO WAS NOT INVITED TO BE PRESENT DURING THIS MEETING.

AS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO CANNOT HAVE LOST ITS RIGHT TO TAKE ITS TURN TO OCCUPY THE PRESIDENCY DUE TO ACCIDENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND THOSE OF FORCE MAJEURE WHICH TOOK PLACE.

THE CUSTOMARY RULE ACCEPTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOME YEARS HAS BEEN THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHOULD ASCEND IN TURN TO THE POSITIONS OF RAPporteur, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT.

THIS RULE CANNOT BE INVOKED NOR BE APPLIED TO THE PRESENT SITUATION SINCE IT CONSTITUTES AN EXCEPTIONAL AND EXTRAORDINARY CASE, AND THEREFORE IT CANNOT BE SAID THAT THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE USSR AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL HAVE ACQUIRED THE RIGHT TO ASCEND DURING THE NEXT PERIOD OF SESSIONS THUS DEPRIVING MEXICO OF ITS LEGITIMATELY ACQUIRED RIGHT.

IN ORDER TO BRING THE SITUATION BACK TO NORMAL, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO OCCUPY THE POSITION OF THE PRESIDENCY IN THE PERSON OF LICENCIADO PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC, WHO BY VIRTUE OF THE LAW AND THROUGH THE EXPRESS ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CLANDESTINE PRODUCTION, ILLICIT TRAFFIC, AND IMPROPER USE OF DRUGS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND IS THEREFORE THE PERSON WITH GREATEST AUTHORITY IN MEXICO TO EXPLAIN IN THAT FORUM THE ACTIVITIES AND PREOCCUPATIONS CAUSED BY THE DRUG PROBLEM AT AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL.

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THE ASSUANCE IS GIVEN, FURTHERMORE, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO SHALL ENDEAVOR, BY ALL MEANS WITHIN ITS REACH, TO SEE TO IT THAT DR E. BABAIA, PROFESSOR BROR REXED AND DR SMITH, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT AND RAPporteur, RESPECTIVELY, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE USSR, SWEDEN AND CANADA, ARE REFLECTED, WHICH WILL PERMIT THE ESTABLISHED CUSTOM TO CONTINUE IN THE NEXT PERIOD OF SESSIONS OF THE NARCOTICS COMMISSION.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HAVE MADE PUBLIC STATEMENTS RECOGNIZING THE FACT THAT THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE OF MEXICO, UNDER THE ORDERS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC, LICENCIADO

PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA, HAVE CARRIED OUT THE GREATEST CONFISCATIONS OF NARCOTICS REGISTERED TO DATE, AND HAVE DESTROYED THE POWERFUL BANDS OF INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKERS WHO HAD BEEN SUPPLYING THE ILLICIT MARKET IN HEROIN, COCAINE AND MARIJUANA IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE AUTHORITIES OF OTHER NATIONS HAVE CONCURRED IN THIS OPINION.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE ANTECEDENTS AND REASONING ABOVE STATED, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OPPORTUNELY GIVE INSTRUCTIONS WHICH IT MAY BELIEVE APPROPRIATE TO ITS DELEGATE IN ORDER THAT HE MAY VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE CANDIDATE OF MEXICO AND GIVE HIM HIS SUPPORT AND COOPERATION IN THE TASKS WHICH MUST BE CARRIED OUT DURING THE NEXT PERIOD OF SESSIONS WHICH SHALL TAKE PLACE IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND IN FEBRUARY 1976.
TLATELOLCO, D.F., JULY 16, 1975

HIS EXCELLENCY
AMBASSADOR JOSEPH JOHN JOVA
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CITY

END TEXT
JOVA

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